

POLITICS OF THE SPIRIT: PORTRAITS OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY IN LOS ANGELES

by Grace Dyrness
Associate Director, Center for
Religion and Civic Culture

Religion: A Mediator between Cultures

When Maria Gonzaga arrived in Los Angeles six years ago from a small town in Mexico, she knew almost no one. Feeling alone and lost, unable to speak the language, and responsible for three children, Maria turned to the one institution that she was familiar with: the church. There she found people who could speak her language and who immediately began to help her adjust to her new life. The church has now become her family.

Religion plays an important role for many immigrants living in Los Angeles. Churches, synagogues, temples, and mosques are places where people of similar backgrounds congregate. For immigrants in particular, congregations mediate between the old culture, which they left, and the new one that they have entered. It is here that immigrants can speak their native language, celebrate customs from their homeland, and yet simultaneously learn the values of the country that they can now call home.

The Center for Religion and Civic Culture (CRCC) at the University of Southern California is studying the role of religion in the immigrant community of Los Angeles. CRCC seeks to learn in what circumstances, in what ways, and with what effects religious activities and institutions both promote cultural assimilation and help sustain the cultural heritage of immigrants to the region.



Worship at St. Vincent Catholic Church. For immigrants in particular, congregations mediate between the old culture, which they left, and the new one that they have entered. (Photo by Jerry Berndt)

Los Angeles is ideal for such investigations. Larry Stammer, one of several religion writers for the

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Los Angeles Times, recently stated: "Once the virtual province of old-line Protestant churches, Southern California has emerged in recent years as the most religiously

diverse metropolitan area in the world." For example, 40 percent of all Buddhists in the United States live in Southern California, and, hence, it is not surprising that the Hsi Lai Temple, located in a suburb of Los Angeles, is the largest temple in the Western Hemisphere. There are architecturally impressive religious structures in the Los Angeles area representing Islam and Hinduism, including the recently completed \$8 million mosque in Culver City. Six hundred Korean churches are located in LA and Orange County, including several mega-churches with 4,000-5,000 members each. Catholic churches — many of which have Sunday Mass in three or more languages — are bursting at the seams with new immigrants, while many Pentecostal storefront churches are filled with recent arrivals from Central and South America. Other religious traditions are represented in Los Angeles in substantial numbers, ranging from members of the Sikh faith to individuals belonging to Coptic Christian Churches.

Assimilation or Isolation?

Religion often works as a catalyst for accommodation in immigrant communities. It may also help create ethnic enclaves.

In past attempts to understand earlier waves of immigration, "assimilation" and the metaphor of the "melting pot" were important concepts, but to understand immigrant experiences at the end of the twentieth century these ideas have become less and less useful. In its bluntest, most

Continued on page nine.



Children at the Oriental Mission Church community center, Los Angeles. The photos are a reminder that our search for meaning is ultimately never an individual project, but one rooted in community, in relationship one with another. (Photo by Jerry Berndt)

In this issue

**California Humanities
Network Is Now
a Reality..... page 2**

**Radio and Film Projects
Win Top Honors .. page 9**
Prizes Go to Aldous
Huxley's *Brave New
Worlds*, Herbert's *Hippo-
potamus*, and *Beyond
Affliction*

**Grants
Awarded..... page 3**
The Council awards
\$170,000 in major grants
to 19 humanities projects

**Humanities
Calendar..... page 6**

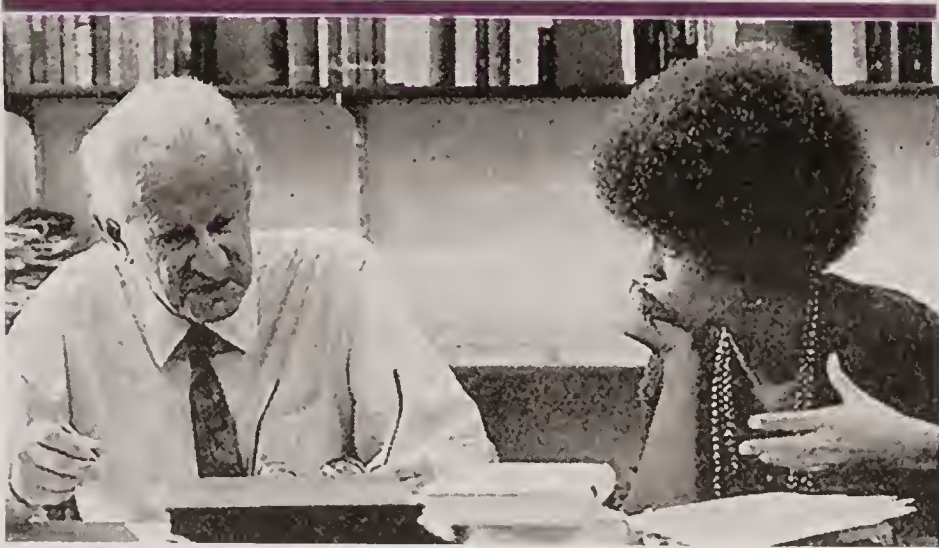
**Humanist in Profile:
Therese Adams
Muranaka..... page 10**

**Karen Cauton Joins
Staff as New Fiscal
Administrator ... page 10**

**Proposal-Writing
Workshops
Announced..... page 10**

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TOP PRIZES GO TO *HUXLEY'S BRAVE NEW WORLDS*, *HERBERT'S HIPPOPOTAMUS*, AND *BEYOND AFFLICTION*



Herbert Marcuse (1898 -1979) discussing the student movement with his pupil Angela Davis during the '60s in San Diego. From the Emmy-winning "*Herbert's Hippopotamus*" (1996). (Photo courtesy of Paul Alexander Juutilainen)

Aldous Huxley's *Brave New Worlds*, a radio series written and produced by David Dunaway, and funded in part by CCH, recently won The New York Festivals International Radio Programming & Promotion Award. The hour-long series examines the life, times, and work of one of this century's most important social novelists. No other radio program funded by any state council in the United States won a gold medal in this international competition. Winners of the prestigious award receive world-wide distribution and publicity for their programs and

become eligible for the annual United Nations Radio Awards. (Go to www.nyfests.com for more information.)

Herbert's Hippopotamus — Marcuse in Paradise, a Council-funded documentary by Paul Alexander Juutilainen about the turbulent life in San Diego of philosopher Herbert Marcuse, recently won an Outstanding Achievement in Historical/Biographical Programming award at the 1999 Southwestern Emmy Awards in Las Vegas. Among the film's previous honors are the Gold Plaque and Certificate of Merit from the Chicago International

Film Festival/Intercom Competition, and a Juror's Citation Award at the Black Maria Film and Video Festival.

The radio series, *Beyond Affliction: The Disability History Project*, which was produced by Laurie Block and funded in part by CCH, has recently been awarded a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for "outstanding reporting on the problems of the disadvantaged." The Robert F. Kennedy Memorial, a non-profit charitable organization funded by Kennedy's family and friends to keep his

vision alive, makes the awards to honor and support those who pursue justice in the face of apathy and indifference, violence and fear. *Beyond Affliction*, which explores the disability rights movement, has been broadcast on more than 225 National Public Radio stations across the country. The Web site that accompanies the series (www.npr.org/programs/disability) was nominated by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a Prix Italia. (See *On Independence*, in *Grants Awarded*, p.4, for the Council's recent grant to this project.)

THE CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES NETWORK IS NOW A REALITY

by James Quay
Executive Director

One year ago, I announced CCH's plans to create a California Humanities Network, thanks to a generous grant from the James Irvine Foundation. Now I am pleased to report that the CHNetwork is a reality. In May, three dozen representatives of the state's libraries, museums, public media, historical societies, and other cultural institutions gathered at the Irvine Foundation to discuss how they could use the network to achieve a new level of cooperation in California.

California needs a humanities network for four reasons:

- because its cultural organizations have a lot to learn from each other and need a way to do so.
- so that its cultural organizations can talk to CCH and to each other about issues of common concern.
- so that its cultural organizations can have a stronger voice in Sacramento.
- so that its cultural organizations can collaborate, at both state and local levels, to broaden and deepen the impact of cultural programming.

The participants created three working groups to continue the discussions begun that day in the areas that reflected the group's three shared desires: for more information about one another, for more collaboration while developing programs, and for more funding to create those programs. With the organizations now part of the network, we have the reach of broadcast media to millions of people, the intimate depth of one-on-one conversation, and all manner of group interaction in between: individuals at an exhibit or alone with a book, small groups

discussing a book or attending a Chautauqua presentation. Imagine a collaboration that could effectively link these formats in regional or statewide projects!

California's size often defeats such ambitions, but the horror of Littleton has demonstrated why we have to succeed. Growing up in the absence of authentic culture and community can be fatal in literal, not just figurative ways. Humanities institutions don't just provide enrichment, they provide the cultural stuff out of which meaningful lives are fashioned. We stand for access to genuine, participatory culture. We offer a human alternative to Mall-Land, to the Monoculture of commercial media. The forces we're arrayed against are formidable,

but if we're going to reclaim California, I know that we'll be stronger and smarter together than we will be separately. The California Humanities Network can help our organizations make a difference. Californians not only deserve better, they need better.

Here's a final analogy that makes me hopeful. In 1961, the Marin Audobon Society purchased 500 acres of land near the Bolinas Lagoon from a developer. Working with other organizations, they raised \$335,000 in small donations to complete the purchase. The Society had never written a check larger than \$125 before. If that purchase had not been made, there would now be a four-lane highway up the Marin-Sonoma coast, a nuclear power plant in Bodega Bay, and two-acre ranchettes containing 150,000 people covering what is now the Point Reyes Seashore and the Marin coast. Small organizations can make a big difference. The California Humanities Network can help those organizations make that difference.



Photo by Jasen Dony

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

October is National Arts and Humanities Month. We urge you to mark the occasion by attending and supporting cultural activities in your community.

For a listing of some of the Council-sponsored humanities programs scheduled in California during October, please see the *Humanities Calendar* on pages 6-8.

Of special note are the cooperative programming efforts going on throughout the Los Angeles area during October, including the Los Angeles county-wide Arts Open House that will be held on Saturday, October 2. For the past four years, the Los Angeles Arts Commission has coordinated the event as part of National Arts and Humanities Month, a national public awareness campaign for the humanities and the arts. More than 120 arts organizations participated in the open house last year, providing a free opportunity for approximately 50,000 people to visit and learn more about their programs. Several Arts Open House projects were supported through the California Council for the Humanities' mini-grants program. All events are free of charge and suitable for all audiences of all ages. (Go to www.lacountyarts.org for more information.)

Please also check with your local museums, historical societies,

libraries, art galleries, colleges and universities, and other cultural organizations to participate in the national celebration of art and culture during the month of October.

COUNCIL LAUNCHES THE *LANGUAGE IS LIFE RENEWAL PROJECT*

Many indigenous California Indian languages are within a decade or less of losing their last native speakers. In response to the current crisis in our state, the California Council for the Humanities is partnering with the Advocates of Indigenous California Language Survival (AICLS) to form the Language is Life Renewal Project (LLRP). The goal of this project is to support efforts and create opportunities within California Indian communities to reverse the loss of native languages and enable all Californians to gain a better understanding of — and appreciation for — California Indian culture, the challenge of language and culture loss facing the state of California, and the urgency with which this issue must be addressed.

For more information please contact Amy Rouillard, LLRP Coordinator, at 619/232-4020.

Grants Awarded

CALIFORNIA SESQUICENTENNIAL



Miners preparing to descend in a skip down into the main shaft of the Argonaut Mine, Jackson, CA. From "Argonaut: Disaster Below." (Photo courtesy of the Amador County Archives)

Argonaut: Disaster Below

Sponsor: The Kennedy Mine Foundation, Jackson
Project Director: Miles Saunders

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

In August 1922, when fire broke out in the main shaft of Argonaut Mine in Jackson, it was the beginning of the worst mining accident in California: three men barely escaped alive, while 47 others, almost all recent immigrant arrivals, were trapped deep in the mine at the 4800' level. As news of the accident quickly spread across the world, rescue crews labored for 22 days to tunnel from a neighboring mine only to find the 47 miners lying in neat rows, having been overcome by gas within hours of the initial fire. This award will help fund script development for a film documentary of a multi-layered story that touches upon the development of Occupational Health and Safety Laws, life during prohibition, and the plight of immigrants and the emerging role of women in the early 20th century.

Alcatraz Is Not an Island: The American Indian Occupation of Alcatraz Island, 1969-1971

Sponsor: The National Indian Justice Center, Petaluma

Project Director: Jon Plutte

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

The Indian occupation of Alcatraz Island, which ended on June 11, 1971, with the removal of the remaining fifteen occupiers, became a symbol of freedom for American Indian people everywhere. This media award will help fund completion of a 56-minute documentary exploring the true meaning and impact of the Alcatraz occupation for all Native Americans, as well as the cultural misunderstanding and prejudices that abounded in the 1960s and early 1970s. The film will be the first comprehensive documentary on the subject and will feature firsthand accounts of those who were at this historic event 30 years ago.

The Charles Lummis Project

Sponsor: International Documentary Association, Los Angeles

Project Director: Bert Atkinson

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

In 1884, at the age of 25, Charles "Lum" Lummis walked 3,500 miles from Ohio to Los Angeles, writing weekly articles for the fledgling Los Angeles Times. Along the way, he fell in love with the people, culture, and landscape of "the Southwest" — a term he himself coined. Before his death in 1928, Lummis could take credit for the preservation of all the Spanish Missions from San Diego to Los Angeles, the reform of American Indian policy under Theodore Roosevelt, and the founding of Los Angeles' first museum, the Southwest Museum; he also helped create the image of California and the West that drew countless thousands of Eastern immigrants. This award will provide research and scripting funds for a feature-length documentary about a flamboyant Los Angeles pioneer.

Giving Back the Owens

Sponsor: Pataphysical Broadcasting Foundation, Santa Cruz

Project Director: Robin White

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

Los Angeles' appropriation of water from the Owens Valley did tremendous damage to the environment, the economy, and relations between Valley residents and the city of Los Angeles. In October 2000, when Los Angeles begins to restore flow to the 60-mile section of dry riverbed and runs some water back into the Owens Lake — an environmental restoration project of historic dimensions — it will also represent a significant political victory for the Valley residents, with the potential to restore the "social ecology" after a century of strife. This award will help fund a 52-minute radio documentary tying together the physical reality and present events of the Owens Valley with its historical past as a site of cultural and environmental dispute.

The Land of Orange Groves and Jails: Young Idealists in the Garden of Eden

Sponsor: Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, Los Angeles

Project Director: Judy Branfman

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

When a small summer camp for working people's children on an apple farm in Yucaipa was closed down by local vigilantes and L.A.'s infamous "Red Squad" in 1929, the 19-year-old who ran it and 10 mothers and children landed up in the Riverside jail — and made national headlines. *Yetta Stromberg vs. the People of California*, the court case that evolved out of the camp closure due to the flying of a "red flag," went on to the U.S. Supreme Court and became one of the building blocks used by lawyers from the ACLU and International Labor Defense to establish civil liberties in Los Angeles and throughout California. This award will help fund research and writing of a script for a 55-minute video documentary that examines Boyle Heights' activist Jewish community within the larger context of Los Angeles during the Depression era.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

¡Cine Club! Monthly Latino Film & Video Series

Sponsor: Centro Cultural de la Raza, San Diego

Project Director: Ethan van Thillo

Amount of Award: \$6,250 in outright funds

The large Latino population in California is often misrepresented by, stereotyped in, or absent from traditional mainstream media. This award will help continue the *¡Cine Club! Monthly Latino Film & Video Series* which was created to help dispel myths by presenting a more accurate portrait of the multifaceted Latino community. *¡Cine Club!* presentations consist of film/video screenings followed by dialogues with respected filmmakers and scholars, and cover issues ranging from what Californian life would be like without Mexican laborers to the influential career of actor Mario Moreno. The programs will be held between July and December, 1999, at the San Diego Public Library.



Part fake newsreel, part diffusionist rant, *Ruins: A History of Appropriated Objects* uses appropriated sounds and images to contemplate a history of appropriated objects. From one of the film and speaker presentations of "¡Cine Club! Monthly Latino Film & Video Series." (Photo courtesy of Ronnie Garver)

Grants Awarded



Artist Sara Bates and friends with her mandala installation. From "Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala." (Photo courtesy of Fullerton Museum Center)

Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala

Sponsor: The Fullerton Museum Center
Project Director: Lynn LaBate

Amount of Award: \$8,937 in outright funds
Mandalas — symbolic representations of the universe that are closely associated with the art of India and Tibet — are always circular in form. A mandala may be a vehicle for peace and healing, a map of the cosmos, a guide for meditation, or a symbol for the transitory nature of life. This award will help fund six public programs that will complement the *Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala* exhibit by examining Tibetan Buddhist and Southern India Hindu religious traditions as well as North American popular culture. The exhibit will be on display at the Fullerton Museum Center from September 18, 1999, through January 9, 2000, and related presentations will be held during October, November, and December, 1999.

The California Indian Storytelling Festival, Symposium, and Emerging Voices Program

Sponsor: The California Indian Storytelling Association, Fremont

Project Director: Lauren Teixeira

Amount of Award: \$6,025 in outright funds
According to 1990 US Census statistics, California has the second largest state population of Native Americans, with more than 150 tribal groups, each unique in culture, language, and history. Until the Civil Rights and American Indian movements, survival for these groups often meant minimizing traditional cultural practices and not speaking their own language — a clear peril to people who have relied on the spoken word to record and convey their culture and history for thousands of years. Today, however, a passionate revitalization is occurring within the Native California Indian community, and oral traditions play a crucial role. This grant will help fund a festival, symposium, and *Emerging Voices* program that will promote the preservation of Native languages and oral traditions, on November 6-7, 1999, at the Ohlone Community College in Fremont.

Just Another Poster: Chicano Graphic Arts in California

Sponsor: University Art Museum, UC Santa Barbara

Project Director: Marla C. Berns

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds
Whether posted on barrio walls, carried as placards in demonstrations, or collected and displayed by individuals, posters and other graphic art played a critical role in the Chicano struggle for self-determination in California. Artists working in this accessible medium created powerful graphic messages that became a form of public discourse, raising awareness and rousing conscience, and the artists' collectives or *centros* that produced the work emerged as social sites for gathering, art training, poster production, display, and dissemination. This award will help fund an exhibition and symposium exploring the graphic arts within the history of Chicano art and the Chicano civil rights movement, scheduled at the University Art Museum, UCSB, from April 14 to June 30, 2000, and touring soon afterward.

Making the Spirit of 20th & 21st Century Culture: Placing Black Popular Culture and Performance

Sponsor: The Committee on Black Performing Arts, Stanford University

Project Director: Harry J. Elam, Jr.

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds
From hip-hop music to Michael Jordan to the sensationalized dramas of Rodney King and O.J. Simpson, performance and pop culture events profoundly impact constructions of race and identity. This award will help fund a public symposium exploring the impact of black diasporan popular culture and performance on the cultural development of America and the world. Speakers — including local and national scholars, artists, and professionals from the fields of advertising, film, philanthropy, and Web technology — will investigate the power of cultural performance to act as a social force and as an agent for racial definition, tolerance, and understanding. The symposium, which is being co-sponsored with the Black Popular Culture Workshop at Stanford University, will be held in the University's Annenberg Auditorium on October 8-10, 1999.

On Independence: Changing Relations between Able and Disabled, 1800-1990

Sponsor: Straight Ahead Pictures, Conway, MA

Project Director: Laurie Block

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds
As the center of the Independent Living Movement in its earliest years (1965-1980), California was the setting for a major revision of what "independence" meant for people with disabilities. The disability rights movement that created that revision was explored in the Council-funded, four-hour radio series *Beyond Affliction: The Disability History Project*, broadcast in May 1998 on 225 National Public Radio stations. The Disability History Museum and Learning Resource Center (DHM/LRC), a Web site providing an on-line library, museum exhibits, and curriculum resources about the history of people with disabilities, was created in response to listener requests for more information. This program award will help fund the DHM/LRC's inaugural exhibit, which will include some of the primary resources — interviews, archives, and visual documents — discovered during production of the radio series.

Water in Los Angeles: Re-envisioning the Los Angeles River and the Water and Land We Use in Creating a More Livable Region

Sponsor: Occidental College, Los Angeles

Project Director: Robert Gottlieb

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds
Connecting L.A.'s diverse communities from one end of the L.A. Basin to the other is the Los Angeles River. Its central place in the region's geography can also be seen in the imaginative recreations of Los Angeles in the arts and media. Since 1938, the River has been seen primarily as a flood control channel and repository of treated, reclaimed water. Recently, however, with interest in urban greening, "smart growth" strategies, watershed planning, and habitat restoration, urban rivers such as the Los Angeles River are making a comeback and are increasingly being put to multiple uses. This award will help fund a series of gatherings to be hosted from September 1999 through June 2000, at Occidental College and several river-side sites, exploring the experience of the Los Angeles River and issues of water and land use in a region that has defined itself largely by the pursuit, availability, and often misuse of that water.



The Los Angeles River. Since 1938, the river has been seen primarily as a flood control channel and repository of treated, reclaimed water. From "Water in Los Angeles." (Photo courtesy of Friends of the Los Angeles River)

What's the Point?: Historical Perspectives on San Simeon

Sponsor: Heritage Shared, Morro Bay

Project Director: Astrid Gallagher

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds
William Randolph Hearst called his hilltop retreat *La Cuesta Encantada*. If not actually enchanted, San Simeon nevertheless remains a place in the heart as well as a spot on the map: In a recent opinion poll funded by the Packard Foundation, local residents identified it as one of the most precious places in San Luis Obispo County. It is also contested terrain, and recent debates between longtime residents and newcomers, promoters of development and defenders of open space, have attracted statewide and national media attention. This grant will help fund a two-day *Heritage Shared Forum*, September 11-12, 1999, which will include lectures and on-site visits designed to help broaden the debate about San Simeon Point land use beyond immediate anxieties over jobs and property rights.

Grants Awarded

MEDIA PROJECTS

SCRIPTS



Drag queens in Compton's Cafeteria, San Francisco, 1963. From "Looking for Compton's." (Photo by Henry LeLeiu)

Looking for Compton's: The Lost History of Transsexuals in San Francisco's Tenderloin

Sponsor: The Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California, San Francisco

Project Director: Victor Silverman

Amount of Award: \$8,825 in outright funds

One night in 1966, when transgendered people militantly resisted harassment at Compton's Cafeteria in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood, a vibrant, diverse, and resolute transsexual community began to take shape — a community with roots visible in the Tenderloin as far back as 1905. This award will help fund script development of a feature-length film that, in the course of exploring the contributions made to California society by people who have changed sex, and by chronicling a group's struggle for individual and collective human and civil rights, will also explore the new physical and psychological ways of being emerging from the technological and social revolutions of the past half century.

Archeology of Memory

Sponsor: Interfaze Educational Productions, Inc., Berkeley

Project Director: Marilyn Muford

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

This award will help fund script development for a one-hour documentary video based on the experiences of Chilean artist-exiles who have found refuge and community in California. These artist-exiles all had shared the vision of a new Chile promised by Allende's Popular Unity Government and then had their hopes crushed by the military coup in 1973; each was interned, tortured, and exiled during Pinochet's reign. In time, many of these artist-exiles found comfort and inspiration in artist communities that are much like the small *peñas* (cultural centers) banned in Pinochet's Chile. For many Chileans these new California *peñas* are islands that help them preserve their identity, and here, slowly, a new "culture of exile" has emerged.

Solidarity For Ever! The Lives of Retired Longshoremen

Sponsor: The Harry Bridges Institute, San Pedro

Project Director: Pilar Wright

Amount of Award: \$8,897 in outright funds

Members of the Southern California ILWU Pensioners Group, or "pensioners" as they call themselves, participate in monthly meetings to discuss and act on issues involving their pensions and welfare, the maritime industry in general, and concerns facing the working class on a state, national, and global level. This award will help fund script development for an intimate look into the personal histories, shared values, and enduring commitments of a group of retired Los Angeles harbor longshore workers and ILWU union activists — now in their 70s, 80s, and 90s — who are still active in civic and community affairs, and who are culture bearers of a vanishing occupational group.

PRODUCTION

Sean Now & Then: A Generational History Tour

Sponsor: International Documentary Association (IDA), Los Angeles

Project Director: Ralph Arlyck

Amount of Award: \$14,000 gift

The original 1969 student short film, *Sean* — in which the charming four-year-old protagonist sits on a couch in his Haight Ashbury neighborhood and plays with his feet while discoursing on such topics as pot, cops, and speed freaks — both engaged and troubled film festival and public television audiences worldwide. Dubbed by Truffaut as "the true 'kid' of our time," some saw Sean as the product of '60s permissiveness at its extreme — as a potential addict, delinquent, or worse. This grant will help complete a new film, *Sean Now & Then*, which, by way of re-visiting Sean today, traces the evolution of a Bay Area family that has evolved from '30s Communism, to '60s counter-culturalism, to the '90s Generation X, at the same time it examines the creation and arbitrariness of such "decade" demarcations.

The Thursday Club

Sponsor: Film Arts Foundation, San Francisco

Project Director: George Paul Csicsery

Amount of Award: \$9,000 in outright funds

This grant will help fund completion of *The Thursday Club*, a one-hour documentary about the weekly lunch meetings of retired Oakland police officers, whose careers and anecdotes span several decades of Oakland and San Francisco Bay Area history, from the Depression through World War II and the '50s. Often cast as set villains, the retired officers describe how they experienced such well-documented events as the 1967 Stop the Draft Week demonstrations in Oakland, the arrest of Huey Newton, an attack against Black Panther Party headquarters at night by rogue officers, and more. While focusing on the history of the Oakland Police Department from the late '40s through the mid-'70s, including its transformation from an Irish-dominated force to the multi-ethnic department of today, the film will also create a nuanced portrait of a complex community and subculture.



Four-year-old Haight Ashbury resident Sean Farrell, who both charmed and troubled audiences with his opinions on pot, cops, and speed freaks in Ralph Arlyck's award-winning 1969 film *Sean* is revisited in "Sean Now & Then: A Generational History Tour." (Photo by Timed Exposures)

RADIO

The Harry Bridges Project

Sponsor: Kick in the Eye, Santa Monica

Project Director: Ian Ruskin

Amount of Award: \$8,980 in outright funds

Harry Bridges was an Australian who, after arriving in San Francisco in 1920, had a profound effect on the next 50 years of American, and particularly West Coast, history: He was a leader in the creation of the International Longshore & Warehouse Union (ILWU). Eventually spreading to all West Coast ports, the ILWU included men and women of all colors and ethnicities in its membership and took longshoremen from being "wharf rats" to "kings of the dock;" it was also a haven for those blacklisted during the McCarthy years, with philosophers, poets, and writers among its members. This media grant will help produce a radio documentary about the life and times of an extraordinary labor leader and social activist who also fought a 20-year battle, including four trials, for his own citizenship.



Active ILWU retirees, Mac Rabjohn and Ed Thayne, show their pride in their union. From "Solidarity For Ever! The Lives of Retired Longshoremen." (Photo by Pilar Wright)

SUMMER Calendar

The public humanities programs listed on these two pages were either created or supported by the California Council for the Humanities. Please note that dates and times should be confirmed with the local sponsors. These listings are often provided to CCH well before final arrangements are made.

Please also check the monthly calendar listings on the Council's world wide web pages at www.calhum.org/calendar.html.

EXHIBITS

Thru Aug. 1 The "Distant Gold: Inland Southern California, 1848-1882" exhibit explores the impact and legacies of the California Gold Rush in a place far distant from the gold fields themselves. Museum of History and Art, Ontario. 225 South Euclid Ave., Ontario. 909/983-3198.

Thru Aug. 1 "Picks, Plows and Potatoes: the Santa Cruz Region During the Gold Rush" is a multi-faceted exhibit that examines life around the Monterey Bay 150 years ago and highlights the changes wrought in the region by the discovery of gold in 1848. Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz. 408/429-1964.

Thru Aug. 21 "Sunset Magazine: One Hundred Years of Western Living 1898-1998" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit exploring the evolution of one of the premiere lifestyle magazines in the country and its influence on American lifestyle, from the popularization of the barbecue to the use of innovative technologies in home design. Hi-Desert Museum, 57116 Twentynine Palms Highway, Yucca Valley, 760/369-7212.



From the Sunset Magazine exhibit. Navajo Indian from Life, 1905, by Maynard Dixon. Dixon, known particularly for his dramatic landscapes of the Southwest and his intimate portraits of Native Americans of that era, began a 32-year association with Sunset in 1902.

Thru Aug. 22 "Gold Fever! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush," the Council-commissioned, multidimensional traveling exhibit about the California Gold Rush, is at the San Joaquin County Historical Society, 11793 N. Mickey Grove Road, Lodi.



From the Votes for Women exhibit. One of the first Chinese-American women to vote in California. (Courtesy of the Huntington Library.)

Thru Sept. 18 "Votes for Women: Unfinished Business" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit chronicling women's struggle for political equality in the U.S. First mounted by the Huntington Library to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment, the exhibit also examines the opposition to the women's suffrage movement as well as the endurance and determination of the activists who fought for the voting rights for women. The exhibit highlights the importance of the West - especially California - to the history of votes for women. McHenry Museum, 1402 I Street, Modesto. 209/491-4317.

Thru Sept. 19 The CCH-commissioned "Gold Fever! Untold Stories of the California Gold Rush" is at the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City. 530/822-7141.

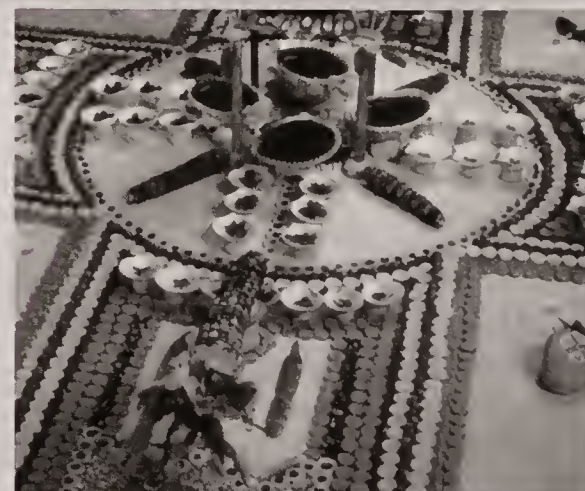
Thru Sept. 27 "Overland: The California Emigrant Trail, 1841-1870" is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of contemporary images of the pioneer trails juxtaposed with excerpts from pioneer diaries and other commentary. Old Courthouse Museum, 211 W. Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana. 714/834-3703.

Thru Dec. 31 "Parallel Journeys: Migration to San Marcos, 1873-1998," an exhibit of photographs and artifacts, connects the migration and settling experience of early residents with that of more recent immigrants to the San Marcos Valley. San Marcos Historical Society and Museum, 270 W. San Marcos Blvd, San Marcos. 760/744-9025.

Aug. 14, 1999 - Feb. 2000 The "Streams and Dreams: Fly Fishing and Conservation" exhibit will explore the history and cultural importance of fly fishing. It will examine the symbolic and aesthetic meanings of the sport, as well as its practical and environmental aspects. Chico Museum, 141 Salem Street, Chico. 530/891-4336.

Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 "Sunset Magazine: One Hundred Years of Western Living 1898-1998," a CERA-sponsored exhibit exploring the evolution of one of the premiere lifestyle magazines in the country and its influence on American lifestyle, moves to the Museum of Art and History, Ontario, 225 South Euclid Ave., Ontario. 909/983-3198.

Sept. 18, 1999 - Jan. 9, 2000 "Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala" is an exhibit that offers a multicultural exploration of religious, historical and artistic expression using the mandala, one of the most potent symbolic representations of the universe. Fullerton Museum Center, 301 North Pomona Avenue, Fullerton. 714/738-6545.



From the Diagrams of the Cosmos exhibit. Mandala installation by artist Sara Bates. Courtesy of the Fullerton Museum Center.

Oct. 6 - Dec. 31 "Votes For Women: Unfinished Business," a CERA-sponsored traveling exhibition, chronicles American women's struggle for political equality. Old Courthouse Museum, 211 W. Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana. 714/834-3703.

E V E N T S

Aug. 4 Writer and social commentator Theodore Roszak speaks, highlighting "The Wisdom of Our Elders: Reconnecting the Arts with Nature" symposium. College of the Redwoods, 7351 Tompkins Hill Rd., Eureka. 707/445-6700.

Aug. 14 "The Power of Place" is the seventh program in a year-long lecture/discussion series examining themes related to the "Common Ground: The Heart of Community" exhibit. 1 p.m. Education Center, Japanese American National Museum Historic Building, 369 First St., Los Angeles. 213/625-0414.

Aug. 14 & 15 The "Jazz Master Classes Lecture Series" is a four-part series held over two days exploring the history and evolution of jazz. Lecturers include Smith Dobson and John Santos. Held in conjunction with San Jose Jazz Festival. San Jose Repertory Theater, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose. 408/288-7557.

Aug. 18 "New Videos from Mexico" explores the characteristics of six new video works from Mexico and features a post-screening discussion led by guest curator Rita Gonzalez. "Cine Club Monthly Latino Film and Video Series." 6:30 p.m. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. 619/230-1938 for more information.

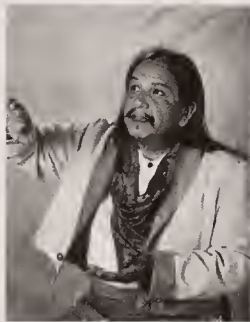


Dan Lewis portrays Mariano Vallejo in a History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo by Mike Blumensadt.)

Aug. 21 Scholar/performer Dan Lewis portrays Mariano Vallejo, the "First Citizen of California," who held both military and civil authority over a vast area of Northern California during the Mexican period. A CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Green Valley Lake Historical Society. Call 909/867-3434 for time and location of event.

Aug. 26 "Unfinished Business" is a lecture by Dr. Glenna Matthews about the continuing efforts for equality for women. Held in conjunction with the "Votes for Women" exhibition. 5:30 p.m. followed by a reception. McHenry Museum and Historical Society, 1402 I Street, Modesto. 209/491-4317.

Aug. 26 Scholar/performer Roberto Garza portrays Pio Pico, the last governor of Mexican California, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Buena Park Library District, 7150 La Palma, Buena Park. Call 714/826-4100 for time.



José Rivera portrays Camillo Ynitia in a History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo by Mike Blumensadt.)

Sept. 9 Jose Rivera portrays Camillo Ynitia, the last chief of the Coastal Miwok village of Olompali, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua." Watsonville Public Library, 310 Union Street, Watsonville. 831/728-6041 for more information.

Sept. 10 "The Spirit of John Muir" chautauqua features Lee Stetson's portrayal of the great environmental activist John Muir. Held in conjunction with the John Muir exhibit at the Visalia Library. 7 p.m. Visalia Library, 200 West Oak, Visalia. 209/733-6954.

Sept. 11 Scholar/performer Olga Loya portrays Juana Briones, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Weaver Library, 4035 Tweedy Blvd., South Gate. Call 562/868-0700 for time.

Sept. 11 & 12 "What's the Point? Historical Perspectives on San Simeon" is a two-day conference exploring the history, culture, and environment of San Simeon. It is the second in a series of Heritage Shared projects along California's Central Coast. It includes a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" performance featuring Roberto Garza portraying the legendary Pio Pico. Events occur at various locations in the San Simeon area. Call 805/549-9283 for more information.

Sept. 12 Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays Gold-Rush era healer Yee Fung Cheung in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. 6 p.m. Friends of Rancho los Cerritos Historic Site, 4600 Virginia Road, Long Beach. 562/570-1755.

Sept. 15 "A Day Without A Mexican," a video "mockumentary," will be screened, followed by a discussion led by Yareli Arismendi. This is the third of six programs in the "Cine Club Monthly Latino Film and Video Series." 6:30 p.m. San Diego Public Library. 820 E Street. 619/230-1938 for more information.

Sept. 17 & 18 Scholar/performer Jose Rivera portrays Antonio Garra, Native American leader of a Gold Rush-era tax revolt against American authorities in San Diego County, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. At the Pico Rivera Senior/Arts Center on Sept 17th, and at the Sante Fe Springs Library on the 18th. 510/665-1805 for more information.

Sept. 18 Scholar/performer Kate Magruder portrays Dame Shirley, author of vibrant, first-hand accounts of life in the California gold fields, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua." Paradise Performing Arts Center, Paradise. Call 530/872-8722 for time.

Sept. 18 David Fenimore portrays John Sutter, owner of the site where the California Gold Rush began, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City. 530/822-7141.

Sept. 18 Scholar/performer Olga Loya portrays Juana Briones, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. San Bernardino County Library, 8334 Emerald Avenue, Fontana. 909/823-3023.



Olga Loya portrays Juana Briones in a History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo by Mike Blumensadt.)

Sept. 19 Scholar/performer Roberto Garza portrays Pio Pico, the last governor of Mexican California, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Sponsored by the Fort Guijarros Museum Foundation. 5 p.m. Call 619/487-4599 for location of event.

Sept. 19 Scholar/performer Kate Magruder portrays Dame Shirley, author of vibrant, first-hand accounts of life in the California gold fields, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Yolo County Library, 315 East 14th Street, Davis. 530/757-5593.

Sept. 21 David Fenimore portrays John Sutter, owner of the site where the California Gold Rush began, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. San Bernardino Public Library, 555 West 6th Street, San Bernardino. 909/381-8215.

Sept. 23 Historian Doris Dwyer portrays Sarah Royce, mother of philosopher Josiah Royce and one of the few women to leave behind an account of her journey overland during the Gold Rush, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Yorba Linda Library, 18181 Imperial Hwy, Yorba Linda. 714/777-2873.

Sept. 23 Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays Gold-Rush era healer Yee Fung Cheung in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. 7 p.m. Milpitas Community Center Theater. 408/262-1349.

Continued ►

HUMANITIES Calendar

Sept. 24 & 25 Scholar/performer Olga Loya portrays **Juana Briones**, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Performances at the Norwalk Public Library on Sept. 24th, and at the Whittier Library on the 25th. 510/665-1805 for more information.

Sept. 25 Jose Rivera portrays **Camillo Ynitia**, the last chief of the Coastal Miwok village of Olompali, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua." Martinez Community Senior Center, Martinez. 925/646-2688 for more information.

Sept. 25 Scholar/performer Roberto Garza portrays **Pio Pico**, the last governor of Mexican California, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Oceanside Public Library, 330 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. 760/966-9666.



Roberto Garza portrays Pio Pico in a History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo by Mike Blumensadt.)

Sept. 27 "Art and Community Work" is the eighth program in a year-long lecture/discussion series examining themes related to the "Common Ground: The Heart of Community" exhibit. 1 p.m. Theater Gallery, Japanese American National Museum Historic Building, 369 First St., Los Angeles. 213/625-0414.

Oct. 1 & 2 Scholar/performer Charlie Chin portrays Gold-Rush era healer **Yee Fung Cheung** in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. North Columbia Schoolhouse Cultural Center, 17894 Tyler-Foote Xing Road, Nevada City. 530/265-2826.

Oct. 2 Scholar/performer Roberto Garza portrays **Pio Pico**, the last governor of Mexican California, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Pico Rivera Senior/Arts Center, Pico Rivera. 510/665-1805 for more information.

Oct. 4 Scholar/performer Susheel Bibbs portrays **Mary Ellen Pleasant**, who was born a slave and became known as the "Mother of Civil Rights in California," in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Santa Clara County Library. 408/262-1349 for more information.



Mary Ellen Pleasant, shown here at the age of 87, will be portrayed by Susheel Bibbs in History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo courtesy of the California Historical Society.)

Oct. 7 & 8 Scholar/performer Kate Magruder portrays **Dame Shirley**, author of vibrant, first-hand accounts of life in the California gold fields, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Lassen County Historical Society, Susanville. 530/257-4584 for more information.

Oct. 8 - 10 "Making the Spirit of 20th & 21st Century Culture: Placing Black Popular Culture and Performance" is a symposium exploring the impact of black popular culture and performance on cultural development in America and throughout the world. The symposium features lectures, panel discussions and performances. Some of the events will be webcast over the internet. Annenberg Auditorium, Stanford University, Palo Alto. 650/725-6739 for information.

Oct. 10 & 11 Scholar/performer Olga Loya portrays **Juana Briones**, one of early California's most prominent and successful women, in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. Richmond Museum Association, Richmond. 510/235-7387 for more information.



Maxine Hong Kingston. (Photo by Jane Scherr.)

Oct. 13 Public readings and discussions by California writers **Al Young** and **Maxine Hong Kingston** will be featured during a public session of the Western Literature Association meeting. 7 p.m. Edgewater Ballroom, Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento. 916/922-2020.

Oct. 16 Poet **Gary Snyder** will read and discuss his work featured during a public session of the Western Literature Association meeting. 11:15 a.m. Edgewater Ballroom, Radisson Hotel, 500 Leisure Lane, Sacramento. 916/922-2020.

Oct. 16 "Performance with **Brenda Wong Aoki** or **Cynthia Gates Fujikawa**" is the ninth program in a year-long lecture/discussion series examining themes related to the "Common Ground: The Heart of Community" exhibit. 1 p.m. Theater Gallery, Japanese American National Museum Historic Building, 369 First St., Los Angeles. 213/625-0414.

Oct. 17 **Stephen Huyler** presents a slide/lecture exploring the role of women's art in village India. The discussion will include such issues as women's art in a patriarchal society, the erosion of culture as people move from an agrarian to an urban environment, and how women of India create sacred art as a means of bringing balance to their lives. Held in conjunction with the "Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala" exhibit. Fullerton Museum Center, 301 North Pomona Avenue, Fullerton. 714/738-6545 for more information.



From The U.S.-Mexican War, 1846-1848. (Photo by Rick Leai.)

Oct. 20 "The U.S.-Mexican War: 1846-1848, Part I" will be screened, followed by a discussion led by film maker and scholar **Paul Espinosa** and historian **Ricardo Griswold**. This is the fourth of six programs in the "Cine Club Monthly Latino Film and Video Series." 6:30 p.m. San Diego Public Library. 820 E Street. 619/230-1938 for more information.



Charlie Chin portrays Yee Fung Cheung in a History Alive! Chautauqua program. (Photo by Mike Blumensadt.)

Oct. 20 Scholar/performer **Charlie Chin** portrays Gold-Rush era healer **Yee Fung Cheung** in a CCH "History Alive! Chautauqua" program. 7:30 p.m. El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Avenue, El Cerrito. 510/558-0451.

Oct. 23 - 29 The Tibetan Buddhist Monks from the Gaden Shartse monastery will create a Yamantaka sand mandala, a Buddhist ritual that will take one week. This event will be accompanied by hourly lecture/discussions. Held in conjunction with the "Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala" exhibit. Fullerton Museum Center, 301 North Pomona Avenue, Fullerton. 714/738-6545 for information.

Oct. 23 On the first day of the Yamantaka mandala creation, Professor **Dan Cozort** of Dickinson College presents a slide lecture about the Yamantaka mandala and the tradition of the mandala in Tibetan Buddhism. Held in conjunction with the "Diagrams of the Cosmos: The Mandala" exhibit. Fullerton Museum Center, 301 North Pomona Avenue, Fullerton. 714/738-6545 for more information.

Nov. 6 "Somebody Cares: Non-Nikkei Contributions to the Community" is the tenth program in a year-long lecture/discussion series examining themes related to the "Common Ground: The Heart of Community" exhibit. 1 p.m. Theater Gallery, Japanese American National Museum Historic Building, 369 First St., Los Angeles. 213/625-0414.

Nov. 6 - 7 "The California Indian Storytelling Festival, Symposium and Emerging Voices Program" features workshops, panel discussions, and storytelling performances. The two-day program explores and exemplifies the diversity of cultural traditions within California Indian culture. Ohlone Community College, Fremont. 510/794-7253.

POLITICS OF THE SPIRIT: PORTRAITS OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY IN LOS ANGELES CONTINUED

uncritical form, "assimilation" suggests a linear, uniform process by which immigrants are sorted and reprogrammed by American institutions — language, education, government, work, and religion, among them — before being absorbed into the generic "mainstream" of American life. Instead, immigration scholars today are drawn to such concepts as "segmented assimilation," in recognition of the fact that the patterns of international migration are far more complex now than in the past.

Los Angeles could be the best case in point. Immigrants varying greatly in their "human capital" — from the destitute to the educated professional middle class — are arriving from around the world to face an episodically hostile and increasingly restrictive reception, all against the backdrop of a volatile economy and a mercurial political climate. To be sure, all of these immigrant groups share some common experiences and altered expectations, but little indicates that separate ethnic identities or diverse world-views are converging upon any single set of cultural practices. "Ethnic enclaves," some of them quite protective of their isolation, sometimes appear precisely among immigrants who have not found a clear pathway to security, social mobility, and cultural acceptance. If homogeneity (in the sense of "melting") is indeed necessary for inter-ethnic harmony, then the future of Los Angeles may well be as charged with tension as the recent past.

An alternate hypothesis is under examination by CRCC, however: that cultural plurality can be consistent with respectful coexistence. CRCC is exploring whether different religions can be catalysts for such an accommodation.

Seeing Where Faith and Civic Life Meet

One of the ways that CRCC explores the intersection of faith and civic life is through photography. Artistic photographs, by themselves, have the capacity to engage people who are viewing them — crossing the usual boundaries of class, gender, age, race and ethnicity. This has been amply demonstrated by the diversity of viewers of photographer Jerry Berndt's exhibition, *Politics of the Spirit: Portraits of Faith and Community in Los Angeles*. While not focused exclusively on immigrants, many of the photos are indeed reflections of their lives.

The 60-photograph exhibit opened on April 6, 1997, in the main gallery of the Central Library in downtown Los Angeles. Since then, the exhibit has been in the libraries of Pasadena, Berkeley, South Central Los Angeles, UCLA and USC, in churches, and in other institutions. Through a grant from the California Council for the Humanities the exhibit will be expanded to 100 images, to include

a broader representation of faith traditions and ethnicities. The exhibit seeks to stimulate Californians to think more broadly about the role of religion in the state, and to recognize that while many

The exhibit catalogs the ways in which religious groups and institutions... help immigrants participate in American society by brokering many of the encounters they have with the larger culture.

religions make exclusive claim to the truth, they nevertheless are often engaged in similar social functions.

Berndt's photographs show people of faith coming together to live out their belief in the transcendent and their hope for a better future. They are seen in houses of worship, at prayer in their homes, on pilgrimages in their neighborhoods and, when tragedy strikes,

at the graves of their loved ones. The common element running through all their activities is the spirit, which becomes visible in religion. This exhibit is a reminder that the search for meaning is ultimately never an individual project, but one rooted in community, in relationship one with another. Thus, the photographs portray people congregating: to seek citizenship, to speak out for justice, or to provide material support for one another.

The photo exhibit also constructs a visual narrative showing the threads of religious experience that are woven into all of these aspects of most immigrants' lives. It catalogs the ways in which religious groups and institutions, and particularly congregations, help immigrants participate in American society by brokering many of the encounters they have with the larger culture, by conveying skills and values that enhance their productivity as members of mainstream society, or by providing immigrants with networks of both intra-ethnic social support and inter-ethnic contact and cooperation. At the same time, the images also show how religious institutions can serve to preserve the cultural values of the homeland against the threat of assimilation, even to the point of encouraging insularity and promoting inter-ethnic estrangement.

In the brief span of three decades, Los Angeles has become one of the world's great experiments in multi-cultural living. Some see it as a model for the future and others

see it as an object lesson in what to avoid. Whichever way reality leans, close attention to this city will surely provide indications of whether and under what conditions diverse groups can maintain a social contract and a coherent civic life without either submerging their identities into an amorphous mass culture or subjecting some groups to a condition of enduring subordination or social and economic marginality.

Editor's note: The Council-supported "Politics of the Spirit," the USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture's exhibit of black and white photographs by Jerry Berndt, explores the role of religion in fostering civic participation. The exhibit continues to tour throughout California; for more information, go to www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/religion_online/, or call 213/740-8562.



Stations of the Cross peace march through the streets of Pasadena by members of the Coalition for a Non-Violent City. (Photo by Jerry Berndt)

COMMUNITY HERITAGE GRANTS TO BE ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 1, 1999

Last February the Council put out a call to the people of California to boldly imagine projects that explore the stories and histories of communities throughout our state and the people who make up those communities. We were interested in seeing how these stories connect with the issues facing California today. Through a partnership with the James Irvine Foundation, the Council has made available six Community Heritage Grants of up to \$50,000 each for community heritage projects. Planning grants were made available to develop the full project proposals.

Over 40 communities throughout California responded with engaging ideas, and over 20 received planning funds to develop their project ideas. Proposals were submitted from Eureka to San Diego, from Los Angeles to Yuba City. Project ideas include exploring the impact of World War II on a small community, the demise of the family farm, and how changing demographics of inner-city Los Angeles affect the culture of the metropolitan area.

On July 15th, people put together and submitted proposals for projects that bring communities together as partners to produce radio programs, exhibits, neighborhood tours, and other programs that will challenge our conception of California. The six winning projects will be announced October 1, 1999.

Visit the California Humanities Network on-line at www.thinkcalifornia.net. You'll find guidelines to the California Council for the Humanities' two new grant programs...and more!

Humanities News

CCH Board to Meet in the Sacramento Area on September 17, 1999

The California Council for the Humanities' next quarterly board meeting will be held in the Sacramento area on September 17, 1999. For additional information, please contact the Council's San Francisco office at 415/391-1474.

Karen Cauton Joins Council Staff



Karen Cauton became the Council's new fiscal administrator on June 16, 1999. Before joining the Council staff, Karen was fiscal manager of the Glide Memorial Children's Program in San Francisco and, prior to that, worked as finance manager at the Leukemia Society of America. She holds a B.A. in international relations from San Francisco State University, with a minor in economics.

Proposal-Writing Workshops Offered

The Council's program staff has scheduled proposal-writing workshops for people interested in applying for the Council's grants. The next deadline for major grants is October 1, 1999.

All proposal-writing workshops are free, but advance registration is required. When calling the office nearest you, please also request and read the current *Guide to the Grant Program* before attending the workshop.

In Los Angeles:

Both public and media project grants will be discussed at each workshop. Space is limited at some workshops. For copies of the guidelines, reservations, and the latest information on times and locations, call 213/623-5993.

July 16, Fri. — Old Courthouse Museum, Santa Ana

Aug. 2, Mon. — Ventura County Community Foundation, Camarillo (Co-sponsored by Assemblymember Tony Strickland)

Aug. 5, Thurs. — A.C. Bilbrew Library, Watts (Co-sponsored by United States Congressmember Juanita Millender-McDonald and Assemblymember Carl Washington)

Aug. 19, Thurs. — Baldwin Park Performing Arts Center (Co-sponsored by Assemblymember Martin Gallegos)

Sept. 9, Thurs. — Center for Nonprofit Management, Los Angeles (Co-sponsored by Assemblymember Gilbert Cedillo)

Sept. (tba) — L.A. Mission College, Pacoima

In San Diego:

Both public and media project grants will be discussed at these sessions. Call Amy Rouillard, program officer, at 619/232-4020 for reservations.

Aug. 17, Tues. — Weingart City Heights Branch Library, Community Room, 3795 Fairmount Ave., San Diego, 10 a.m.-12 noon
For directions call 619/641-6100; for reservations call 619/232-4020

Sept. 9, Thurs. — Escondido Public Library, Pioneer Room
247 South Kalmia, Escondido, 10 a.m.-12 noon
For directions call 760/839-4315; for reservations call 619/232-4020

In the Central Valley:

Both public and media project grants will be discussed in these sessions. For copies of the guidelines, reservations, and the latest information on times, locations, and/or additional workshops, contact Re-Cheng Tsang, program officer, at 415/391-1474.

Sept. 14, Tues. — Bakersfield Museum of Art, Bakersfield, 10 a.m.-12 noon

Sept. 14, Tues. — Tulare Historical Museum, Tulare, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Sept. 15, Weds. — McHenry Museum, Modesto, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

New, Easy-to-Use Message Board on CHN

Go to www.thinkcalifornia.net to check out the California Humanities Network's new and easy-to-use message board. At thinkcalifornia.net you can engage with others in conversations about the important issues facing cultural providers throughout California. Just go into the "Networking" section from the homepage and click on the Message Board button. Here you can read through the messages posted by your colleagues, or you can post your own messages and topics by completing the free on-line registration. Your password will be e-mailed to you after you complete the registration, and with that you can post messages in any of the various discussion forums available, including Statewide Programming, Advocacy, and a Free Range forum to discuss topics of your own choosing! Take a minute to log on and make a difference in the cultural community of California.

Internships Available

The Council has a number of internships available for humanities undergraduate, graduate, and recently graduated students. These opportunities are available in the Council's San Francisco and Los Angeles offices. To find out more, interested students should contact Debra Colman or Felicia Kelley in Los Angeles (213/623-5993), or Alden Mudge in San Francisco (415/391-1474).

Crossing the Steppes to Old Town San Diego:

Therese Adams Muranaka, Humanist in Profile

Current occupations:

Archaeological Project Leader, California State Parks, Old Town San Diego State Historic Park; Lecturer, San Diego City College

Education:

BA, Anthropology, San Diego State University (1972); MA (1973) and PhD (1992), Anthropology, University of Arizona.



When Therese Adams Muranaka recently spoke at the third Council-supported Literary History of San Diego symposium, it was by way of following her scholarly interests, as well as her heart, along a circuit that both begins and returns to her native San Diego. As unlikely as connections between Romania, Baja, and San Diego may sound — or, say, between the migratory behavior of prehistoric steppe dwellers and the love letters of a traveling Californio businessman — such links exist in Muranaka's work.

San Diego to Romania:

I developed a love for all things Slavonic as a child when I was brought to the Ruthenian Catholic liturgy at Holy Angels, in San Diego. I remember how beautiful I found the music. That, in part, later fed my interest in the archaeology of Eastern Europe and led me to eventually live on the Russia/Romania border for a year, with a Fulbright-Hays grant, studying the barbarians who in 400 BC were the first to domesticate and ride horses.

Romania to Baja:

To help prove my hypothesis that these ancient equestrians were the first people to cross the flat, barren Russian steppes, I needed to base my theory on a more contemporary migration — a "test case." That's when I began studying the Russian Molokans, a pacifist sect known as "Spirit Jumpers" (they were said to levitate in spiritual meetings) who, with the help of author Leo Tolstoy, made their way to the United States family by family at the turn of the century.

Molokans began arriving as early as 1904 in Los Angeles, because it had been prophesied that they would always be protected by "the angels." Finding land expensive, however, and needing vast tracts to farm winter wheat in the old ways, a large colony of Spirit Jumpers purchased a tract that had formerly been a Dominican mission in the Valle de Guadalupe, near Ensenada, where they lived a simple, rural life.

Baja to Old Town San Diego:

It was by way of researching the pre-history of the Molokan Spirit Jumper colony that I learned of José Matías Moreno and his wife Chanita López de Moreno: They were the Californios who formerly owned the land grant including the Ex-Misión Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, where the Spirit Jumpers settled.

Moreno was a businessman in northern Baja California in the 1850s and 1860s. After he and Chanita López de Moreno were married, they settled in Old Town San Diego, where she had grown up and where they met, but soon he was forced to travel constantly in order to make a living. The love letters Moreno wrote to Chanita while on the road, and her answers back, tell us much about life on the border between Baja and Alta California in the 1860s. They are full of the details of the changes in the Californios' lives after the U.S. takeover of upper California.

From Old Town to Literary San Diego:

I'm now a member of a team of archaeologists who are excavating the remains of five houses within the confines of Old Town San Diego State Park, in preparation for a new structure to be built. It's a wonderful, rich site; in the process of putting together the alley buried beneath the park, we're uncovering bones, pottery, stone and metal tools, religious medallions, junk — all from the same era in which Chanita López de Moreno lived here. We could be digging up the homes of her friends.

My hope in presenting the Moreno love letters at the third "Literary History of San Diego" symposium, which focused on the Mexican era in San Diego between 1821-1846, was to show the primacy and beauty of daily Californio life. The letters of the Morenos, the little details of their daily lives, serve to remind people of the struggles of times gone by and feelings of people now dead, people whose descendants now make up the border populations. With the San Diego-Tijuana border now the biggest international border in the world — in terms of billions of dollars of daily commerce, and people crossing, both legally and illegally — and with Los Angeles-San Diego-Tijuana soon to be the largest metropolitan area in the world, it is important that the peoples of these communities have some understanding of precedent, who came first, and all their stories.

Membership and Development News

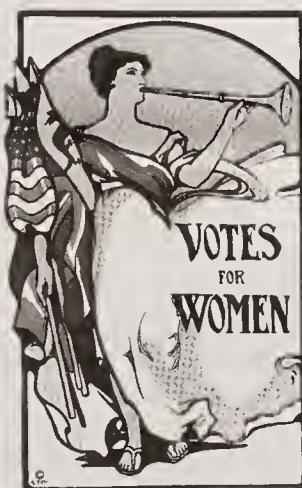
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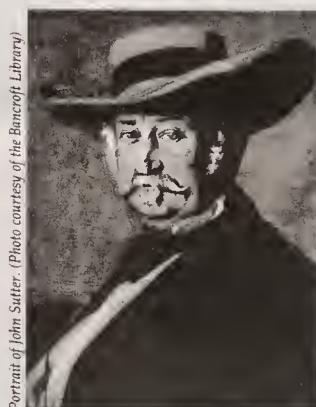
MOTHEREAD, the Council's ground-breaking literacy program for the whole family;



CERA (The California Exhibition Resource Alliance), the Council's unique museum program that makes possible new exhibits and educational programs on themes of critical importance to California audiences;



Rediscovering California at 150, the Council's multifaceted campaign to bring to public attention — and critical review — those events and individuals that led to California's birth as a state;



The Language is Life Renewal Project, the Council's urgent new initiative to support efforts within Native Californian communities to save Indigenous California Indian languages — all of which are within a decade or less of losing their last native speakers.

Just send in the attached coupon, or phone us at 415/391-1474.

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- ☐ **\$12.50 Basic Membership**
to help underwrite my subscription to Humanities Network over the next twelve months
- ☐ **\$25 Partner**
to also help support vital Council programs like MOTHEREAD and the Language is Life Renewal Project
- ☐ **\$50 Golden Partner**
(please send my free copy of Gold Rush: A Literary Exploration)
- ☐ **\$150 Humanities Champion**
I understand I will receive all benefits described above as well as the regular Executive Director's Report on the Humanities
- ☐ \$ _____



Please send your tax-deductible membership gift to:

**The CALIFORNIA COUNCIL
FOR THE HUMANITIES**

**312 Sutter Street, Suite 601
San Francisco, CA 94108**

If you have any questions, please call Julie Levak, Director of Development, at 415/391-1474

Nominations Invited

The California Council for the Humanities, an organization that creates and supports public programs exploring human cultures, histories, and values throughout California, will be selecting several new members later this year and invites nominations from the public.

Council members are leaders drawn from public and academic life. Members serve three-year terms, renewable once.

The Council seeks outstanding board members from any part of the state, but to ensure that it reflects California's diverse geographical, ethnic and professional constituencies, this year the Council particularly welcomes nominations of San Joaquin Valley and California north coast/Sierra Nevada counties.

You are invited to submit names of citizens and scholars who are committed to advancing the humanities in public life. To do so, please complete the nomination form below and submit the following supporting materials:

1. A brief resume from the nominee.
2. A statement indicating the nominee's occupation, education, areas of public service, and special qualifications for membership.
3. A letter of recommendation (from someone other than yourself), if you are recommending yourself, or assurance that the nominee is willing to serve, if you are nominating another.

The Council anticipates only two or three vacancies next year, so be sure to make the strongest case you can for your nominee. Nominations must be received in the Council's San Francisco office no later than Friday, October 8, 1999.

Please note: No nomination will be considered without the requisite supporting materials.

I nominate: _____
as a member of the California Council for the Humanities

Address: _____

City: _____ California Zip Code: _____

Nominee's professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Mail Nominations to: CCH, 312 Sutter Street, Suite 601, San Francisco, CA 94108

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

The humanities explore human histories, cultures, and values. They inform the conversations that are vital to a thriving democracy. They provide a context for people to understand one another. They constitute our most important human inheritance.

The purpose of the California Council for the Humanities is to create a state in which all Californians have lifelong access to this shared inheritance. The Council's mission is to lead in strengthening community life and fostering multicultural understanding throughout California, through programming which provides access to the texts and insights of the humanities. The Council is an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and operates as a public-private partnership rather than as a governmental agency.

From 1998 until 2000, the Council will encourage and develop compelling public programming commemorating the events that led to the founding of the state of California 150 years ago and examining the continuing impact of those events today. The Council's own "Rediscovering California at 150" programs include "History Alive! Chouhouquo" presentations featuring portrayals of major figures of the era; the creation of the anthology, *Gold Rush! A Literary Exploration* (in partnership with Heyday Books) and reading and discussion groups focusing on that anthology; a traveling Gold Rush museum exhibition (commissioned from the Oakland Museum); and a California Sesquicentennial grants program.

Council programs also include the California Exhibition Resources Alliance (CERA), which provides a means of sharing exhibits and programming among members of a network of smaller museums; Motherhead, a family reading program in Los Angeles; and the California Humanities Network, a two-year community history and resource project supported by the James Irvine Foundation.

In addition, the Council conducts a competitive grants program. Since 1975, it has awarded more than \$13 million to over 2,000 non-profit organizations, enabling them to produce exhibits, film and radio programs, and lecture series and conferences on topics significant to California.

The Council is an independent, not-for-profit organization. It is supported by grants from NEH, corporations and foundations, and by contributions from individuals.

Major grant proposals are due on April 1 and October 1. Quick Grants - proposal planning grants, minigrants, film-and-speaker grants - are accepted on the first day of each month. Interested non-profit organizations should request a copy of the Guide to the Grant Program from the San Francisco office.

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NEXT PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 1, 1999

Proposals must conform to the 1997-1999 *Guide to the Grant Program*. Send 15 copies to the San Francisco office by the due date.

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www.calhum.org

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